

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method for ~~detecting~~ determining a risk of prostate cancer, comprising:

- a) providing a serum sample from a subject suspected of having cancer; and
- b) detecting the presence or absence of antibodies to Huntingtin Interacting Protein 1 (HIP1) in said serum sample, wherein the presence of antibodies to HIP1 in said sample is indicative of an increased risk of prostate cancer in said subject, and the absence of antibodies to HIP1 in said sample is indicative of ~~the absence~~ a decreased risk of prostate cancer in said subject.

2-7. (canceled)

8. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said detecting comprises exposing said sample to a HIP1 antigen.

9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said detecting comprises a Western blot.

10. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said detecting comprises an ELISA assay.

11. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said detecting comprises exposing said sample to a second antibody that binds to said antibody to HIP1.

12. (withdrawn) A kit for detecting cancer in a subject, comprising:

- a) a reagent that specifically detects the presence or absence of antibodies to HIP1 in a sample; and
- b) instructions for using said kit for detecting cancer in said subject.

13. (withdrawn) The kit of Claim 12, wherein said reagent comprises a HIP1 antigen.

14. (withdrawn) The kit of Claim 12, wherein said reagent comprises a second antibody that binds to said antibodies to HIP1.

15. (withdrawn) The kit of Claim 12, wherein said instructions comprise instructions required by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use in *in vitro* diagnostic products.